

*Oth.* Come: let vs to the Castle.  
*Newes* (Friends) our Warres are done:  
 The Turkes are drown'd.  
 How do's my old Acquaintance of this Isle?  
 (Hony) you shall be well desir'd in Cyprus,  
 I haue found great loue among't them. Oh my Sweet,  
 I prattle out of fashion, and I doate  
 In mine owne comforts. I prythee, good *Iago*,  
 Go to the Bay, and disimbarke my Coffers:  
 Bring thou the Master to the Cittadell,  
 He is a good one, and his worthynesse  
 Do's challenge much respect. Come *Desdemona*,  
 Once more well met at Cyprus.

*Exit Othello and Desdemona.*

*Iago.* Do thou meet me presently at the Harbour.  
 Come thither, if thou be'st Valiant, (as they say base men  
 being in Loue, haue then a Nobilitie in their Natures,  
 more then is natue to them) list-me; the Lieutenant to  
 night watches on the Court of Guard. First, I must tell  
 thee this: *Desdemona*, is directly in loue with him.

*Rod.* With him? Why, 'tis not possible.

*Iago.* Lay thy finger thus: and let thy soule be in-  
 structed. Marke me with what violence she first lou'd  
 the Moore, but for bragging, and telling her fantastical  
 lies. To loue him still for prating, let not thy discreet  
 heart thinke it. Her eye must be fed. And what delight  
 shall she haue to looke on the diuell? When the Blood  
 is made dull with the Act of Sport, there should be a  
 game to enflame it, and to giue Satiety a fresh appetite.  
 Louelinesse in fauour, sympathy in yeares, Manners,  
 and Beauties: all which the Moore is defectiue in. Now  
 for want of these requir'd Conueniences, her delicate  
 tenderesse wil finde it selfe abus'd, begin to heaue the  
 gorge, disrellish and abhorre the Moore, very Nature wil  
 instruct her in it, and compell her to some second choice.  
 Now Sir, this granted (as it is a most pregnant and vn-  
 forc'd position) who stands so eminent in the degree of  
 this Fortune, as *Cassio* do's: a knaue very voluble: no  
 further conscionable, then in putting on the meere forme  
 of Ciuill, and Humaine seeming, for the better compasse  
 of his salt, and most hidden loose Affection? Why none,  
 why none: A slipper, and subtle knaue, a finder of occa-  
 sion: that he's an eye can stampe, and counterfeit Ad-  
 uantages, though true Advantage neuer present it selfe.  
 A diuinish knaue: besides, the knaue is handsome, young:  
 and hath all those requisites in him, that folly and greene  
 mindes looke after. A pestilent compleat knaue, and the  
 woman hath found him already.

*Rod.* I cannot beleue that in her, she's full of most  
 blef's'd condition.

*Iago.* Blef's'd figges-end. The Wine she drinke is  
 made of grapes. If shee had beene blef's'd, shee would  
 neuer haue lou'd the Moore: Blef's'd pudding. Didst thou  
 not see her paddle with the palme of his hand? Didst not  
 marke that?

*Rod.* Yes, that I did: but that was but curtesie.

*Iago.* Lecherie by this hand: an Index, and obscure  
 prologue to the History of Lust and foule Thoughts.  
 They met so neere with their lippes, that their breathes  
 embrac'd together. Villanous thoughts *Roderigo*, when  
 these mutabilities so marshall the way, hard at hand  
 comes the Master, and maine exercise, th'incorporate  
 conclusion: Pish. But Sir, be you rul'd by me. I haue  
 brought you from Venice. Watch you to night: for  
 the Command, He lay't vpon you. *Cassio* knows you  
 not; He not be farre from you. Do you finde some oc-

casion to anger *Cassio*, either by speaking too loud, or  
 tainting his discipline, or from what other course  
 you please, which the time shall more fauorably mi-  
 nister.

*Rod.* Well.

*Iago.* Sir, he's rash, and very sodaine in Choller: and  
 happily may strike at you, prouoke him that he may: for  
 even out of that will I cause these of Cyprus to Mutiny.  
 Whose qualification shall come into no true taste a-  
 gaine, but by the displanting of *Cassio*. So shall you  
 haue a shorter iourney to your desires, by the meanes I  
 shall then haue to preferre them. And the impediment  
 most profitably remoued, without the which there were  
 no expectation of our prosperitie.

*Rod.* I will do this, if you can bring it to any oppor-  
 tunity.

*Iago.* I warrant thee. Meete me by and by at the  
 Cittadell. I must fetch his Necessaries a Shore. Fare-  
 well.

*Rod.* Adieu.

*Iago.* That *Cassio* loues her, I do well beleue:  
 That she loues him, 'tis apt, and of great Credite.  
 The Moore (howbeit that I endure him not)  
 Is of a constant, louing, Noble Nature,  
 And I dare thinke, he's proue to *Desdemona*  
 A most deere husband. Now I do loue her too,  
 Not out of absolute Lust, (though peraduenture  
 I stand accomptant for as great a sin)  
 But partly led to dyet my Reuenge,  
 For that I do suspect the lustie Moore  
 Hath leap'd into my Seate. The thought whereof,  
 Doth (like a poysonous Minerall) gnaw my Inwardes:  
 And nothing can, or shall content my Soule  
 Till I am euen'd with him, wife, for wift.  
 Or sayling so, yet that I put the Moore,  
 Atleast into a Ielouzie so strong  
 That iudgement cannot cure. Which thing to do,  
 If this poore Trash of Venice, whom I trace  
 For his quicke hunting, stand the putting on,  
 He haue our *Michael Cassio* on the hip,  
 Abuse him to the Moore, in the right garbe  
 (For I feare *Cassio* with my Night-Cape too)  
 Make the Moore thanke me, loue me, and reward me,  
 For making him egregiously an Ass,  
 And practising vpon his peace, and quier,  
 Euen to madnesse. 'Tis heere: but yet confus'd,  
 Knaueries plaine face, is neuer seene, till vs'd.

## Scena Secunda.

*Enter Othello's Herald with a Proclamation.*

*Herald.* It is *Othello's* pleasure, our Noble and Vali-  
 ant Generall. That vpon certaine tydings now arriv'd,  
 importing the meere perdicion of the Turkish Fleet:  
 euery man put himselfe into Triumph. Some to dance,  
 some to make Bonfires, each man, to what Sport and  
 Reuels his addition leads him. For besides these bene-  
 ficiall Newes, it is the Celebration of his Nuptiall. So  
 much was his pleasure should be proclaimed. All offi-  
 ces are open, & there is full libertie of Feasting from this

present houre of siue, till the Bell haue told eleuen.  
 Blesse the Isle of Cyprus, and our Noble Generall *Othel-*  
*lo.* *Exit.*

*Enter Othello, Desdemona, Cassio, and Attendants.*

*Oth.* Good *Michael*, looke you to the guard to night.  
 Let's teach our selues that Honourable stop,  
 Not to out-sport discretion.

*Cas.* *Iago*, hath direction what to do.  
 But notwithstanding with my personall eye  
 Will I looke to't.

*Oth.* *Iago*, is most honest:  
*Michael*, goodnight. To morrow with your earliest,  
 Let me haue speech with you. Come my deere Loue,  
 The purchase made, the fruites are to entice,  
 That profit's yet to come 'twene me, and you. *Exit.*

*Enter Iago.*

*Cas.* Welcome *Iago*: we must to the Watch.

*Iago.* Not this houre Lieutenant: 'tis not yet ten  
 o'clocke. Our Generall cast vs thus early for the  
 loue of his *Desdemona*: Who, let vs not therefore blame;  
 he hath not yet made wanton the night with her: and  
 she is sport for Ioue.

*Cas.* She's a most exquisite Lady.

*Iago.* And Ile warrant her full of Game.

*Cas.* Indeed she's a most fresh, and delicate creature.

*Iago.* What an eye she ha's?

Methinks it sounds a parley to prouocation.

*Cas.* An inuiting eye:

And yet me thinks right modest.

*Iago.* And when she speaks,

Is it not an Alarum to Loue?

*Cas.* She is indeed perfection.

*Iago.* Well: happinesse to their Sheetes. Come Lieu-  
 tenant, I haue a Rope of Wine, and heere without are a  
 brace of Cyprus Gallants, that would faine haue a mea-  
 sure to the health of blacke *Othello*.

*Cas.* Not to night, good *Iago*, I haue very poore,  
 and vnhappie Braines for drinking. I could well wish  
 Curtesie would inuent some other Custome of enter-  
 tainment.

*Iago.* Oh, they are our Friends: but one Cup, Ile  
 drinke for you.

*Cassio.* I haue drunke but one Cup to night, and that  
 was craftily qualified too: and behold what inouation  
 it makes heere. I am infortunate in the infirmity, and  
 dare not taske my weakenesse with any more.

*Iago.* What man? 'Tis a night of Reuels, the Gal-  
 lants desire it.

*Cas.* Where are they?

*Iago.* Heere, at the doore: I pray you call them in.

*Cas.* Ile do't, but it dislikes me. *Exit.*

*Iago.* If I can fasten but one Cup vpon him

With that which he hath drunke to night already,

He'll be as full of Quarrell, and offence

As my yong Mistris dogge.

Now my sicke Foole *Roderigo*,

Whom Loue hath turn'd almost the wrong side out,

To *Desdemona* hath to night Carrows'd.

Potations, pottle-deepe; and he's to watch.

Three else of Cyprus, Noble swelling Spirites,

(That hold their Honours in a wary distance,

The very Elements of this Warrelike Isle)

Haue I to night fluster'd with flowing Cups,

And they Watch too.

Now 'mongst this Flocke of drunkards  
 Am I put to our *Cassio* in some Action  
 That may offend the Isle. But here they come.

*Enter Cassio, Montano, and Gentlemen.*

If Consequence do but approue my dreame,

My Boate failes freely, both with winde and Streame.

*Cas.* Fore heauen, they haue giuen me a rowle already.

*Mont.* Good-faith a litle one: not past a pint, as I am a  
 Souldier.

*Iago.* Some Wine hoa.

And let me the Cannakin clinke, clinke:

And let me the Cannakin clinke.

A Souldiers a man: Oh, man's life's but a span,

Why then let a Souldier drinke.

Some Wine Boyes.

*Cas.* Fore Heauen: an excellent Song.

*Iago.* I learn'd it in England: where indeed they are  
 most potent in Potting. Your Dane, your Germane,  
 and your swag-belly'd Hollander, (drinke hoa) are  
 nothing to your English.

*Cassio.* Is your Englishmen so exquisite in his drin-  
 king?

*Iago.* Why, he drinke you with facilitie, your Dane  
 dead drunke. He sweates not to overthrow your Al-  
 maine. He giues your Hollander a vomit, ere the next  
 Pottle can be fill'd.

*Cas.* To the health of our Generall.

*Mont.* I am for it Lieutenant: and Ile do you Iustice:

*Iago.* Oh sweet England.

King Stephen was and a worthy Peere,

His Breeches cost him but a Crowne,

He held them Six pence all to deere,

With that he cal'd the Tailor Lowne:

He was a wight of high Renowne,

And thou art but of low degree:

'Tis Pride that pulls the Country downe,

And take thy awl'd Cloake about thee.

Some Wine hoa.

*Cassio.* Why this is a more exquisite Song then the o-  
 ther.

*Iago.* Will you heare't againe?

*Cas.* No: for I hold him to be vnworthy of his Place;  
 that do's those things. Well: heauen's above all: and  
 there be foules must be saued, and there be foules must  
 not be saued.

*Iago.* It's true, good Lieutenant.

*Cas.* For mine owne part, no offence to the Generall,  
 nor any man of qualitie: I hope to be saued.

*Iago.* And so do I too Lieutenant.

*Cassio.* I: (but by your leaue) not before me. The  
 Lieutenant is to be saued before the Ancient. Let's haue  
 no more of this: let's to our Affaires. Forgiue vs our  
 sinnes: Gentlemen let's looke to our businesse. Do not  
 thinke Gentlemen, I am drunke: this is my Ancient, this  
 is my right hand, and this is my left. I am not drunke  
 now: I can stand well enough, and I speake well enough.  
*Gent.* Excellent well.

*Cas.* Why very well then: you must not thinke then,  
 that I am drunke. *Exit.*

*Mont.* To th' Platforme (Masters) come, let's set the  
 Watch.

*Iago.* You see this Fellow, that is gone before,

He's a Souldier, fit to stand by *Cas*,

And giue direction. And do but see his vice,

'Tis to his vertue, a iust Equinox,

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